



# Rationalising the Denominator



← REVISE THIS TOPIC



For the entire booklet

1 Show that  $\frac{10}{\sqrt{5}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\frac{10}{\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{10\sqrt{5}}{5}$$
$$= 2\sqrt{5}$$

2 Show that  $\frac{18}{\sqrt{6}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\frac{18}{\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{18\sqrt{6}}{6}$$
$$= 3\sqrt{6}$$

3 Show that  $\frac{70}{\sqrt{2}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\frac{70}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{70\sqrt{2}}{2}$$
$$= 35\sqrt{2}$$

4 Show that  $\frac{20}{\sqrt{10}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\frac{20}{\sqrt{10}} \times \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{20\sqrt{10}}{10}$$
$$= 2\sqrt{10}$$





- 5 Show that  $\frac{24}{\sqrt{15}}$  can be written in the form  $\frac{a\sqrt{15}}{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{24}{\sqrt{15}} \times \frac{\sqrt{15}}{\sqrt{15}} &= \frac{24\sqrt{15}}{15} \\ &= \frac{8\sqrt{15}}{5}\end{aligned}$$

- 6 Show that  $\frac{35}{4\sqrt{5}}$  can be written in the form  $\frac{a\sqrt{5}}{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{35}{4\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}} &= \frac{35\sqrt{5}}{20} \\ &= \frac{7\sqrt{5}}{4}\end{aligned}$$

- 7 Show that  $\frac{1}{9\sqrt{2}}$  can be written in the form  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{a}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\frac{1}{9\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{18}$$

- 8 Show that  $\frac{60}{\sqrt{24}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{24} &= \sqrt{4} \times \sqrt{6} \\ &= 2\sqrt{6}\end{aligned}\qquad \begin{aligned}\frac{60}{2\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}} &= \frac{60\sqrt{6}}{12} \\ &= 5\sqrt{6}\end{aligned}$$

- 9 Show that  $\frac{24}{\sqrt{45}}$  can be written in the form  $\frac{a\sqrt{5}}{b}$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers. [2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{45} &= \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{5} \\ &= 3\sqrt{5}\end{aligned}\qquad \begin{aligned}\frac{24}{3\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}} &= \frac{24\sqrt{5}}{15} \\ &= \frac{8\sqrt{5}}{5}\end{aligned}$$



10 Show that  $\frac{10 - \sqrt{32}}{\sqrt{2}}$  can be written in the form  $a\sqrt{2} - b$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

[3 marks]

$$\frac{10 - \sqrt{32}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}(10 - \sqrt{32})}{2}$$

$$= \frac{10\sqrt{2} - \sqrt{64}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{10\sqrt{2} - 8}{2} = 5\sqrt{2} - 4$$

11 Show that  $\frac{\sqrt{12} + 9}{\sqrt{3}}$  can be written in the form  $a + b\sqrt{3}$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

[3 marks]

$$\frac{\sqrt{12} + 9}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}(\sqrt{12} + 9)}{3}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{36} + 9\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

$$= \frac{6 + 9\sqrt{3}}{3} = 2 + 3\sqrt{3}$$

12 Show that  $\frac{\sqrt{180} + 40}{\sqrt{20}}$  can be written in the form  $a + b\sqrt{5}$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are integers.

[3 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{180} &= \sqrt{36 \times 5} \\ &= 6\sqrt{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{6\sqrt{5} + 40}{2\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}} = \frac{\sqrt{5}(6\sqrt{5} + 40)}{10}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt{20} &= \sqrt{4 \times 5} \\ &= 2\sqrt{5}\end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{30 + 40\sqrt{5}}{10}$$

$$= 3 + 4\sqrt{5}$$





13 Show that  $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^5$  can be written in the form  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{a}$  where  $a$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\frac{1^5}{(\sqrt{2})^5} = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} \quad \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}$$

14 Show that  $\frac{24}{\sqrt{6}} + \sqrt{54}$  can be written in the form  $k\sqrt{6}$  where  $k$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\frac{24}{\sqrt{6}} \times \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{6}} = \frac{24\sqrt{6}}{6} \quad \begin{aligned} \sqrt{54} &= \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{6} \\ &= 3\sqrt{6} \end{aligned}$$
$$= 4\sqrt{6}$$

$$4\sqrt{6} + 3\sqrt{6} = 7\sqrt{6}$$

15 Show that  $\frac{42}{\sqrt{18}} + \sqrt{200}$  can be written in the form  $k\sqrt{2}$  where  $k$  is an integer. [4 marks]

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{18} &= \sqrt{9} \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= 3\sqrt{2} \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} \sqrt{200} &= \sqrt{100} \times \sqrt{2} \\ &= 10\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{42}{3\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{42\sqrt{2}}{6}$$
$$= 7\sqrt{2}$$

$$7\sqrt{2} + 10\sqrt{2} = 17\sqrt{2}$$



- 16 Show that  $\frac{21}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{12}{\sqrt{48}}$  can be written in the form  $k\sqrt{3}$  where  $k$  is an integer. [3 marks]

$$\frac{21}{\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{21\sqrt{3}}{3} \qquad \frac{12}{4\sqrt{3}} \times \frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{3}} = \frac{12\sqrt{3}}{12}$$

$$= 7\sqrt{3}$$

$$= \sqrt{3}$$

$$\sqrt{48} = \sqrt{16} \times \sqrt{3}$$

$$7\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{3} = 8\sqrt{3}$$

$$= 4\sqrt{3}$$

- 17 Show that  $20 \times \sqrt{3\frac{1}{5}}$  can be written in the form  $k\sqrt{5}$  where  $k$  is an integer. [4 marks]

$$20 \times \sqrt{\frac{16}{5}} = 20 \times \frac{\sqrt{16}}{\sqrt{5}} \qquad = \frac{80}{\sqrt{5}} \times \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$= 20 \times \frac{4}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$= \frac{80\sqrt{5}}{5}$$

$$= \frac{80}{\sqrt{5}}$$

$$= 16\sqrt{5}$$

- 18 Show that  $\frac{\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{2}} - \frac{5}{\sqrt{10}}$  can be written in the form  $\frac{\sqrt{6}}{a}$  where  $a$  is an integer. [4 marks]

$$\frac{\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{10}}{2} \qquad \frac{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{10}}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}$$

$$\frac{5}{\sqrt{10}} \times \frac{\sqrt{10}}{\sqrt{10}} = \frac{5\sqrt{10}}{10}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6} + \sqrt{10} - \sqrt{10}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{10}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{6}}{2}$$

